

Outreach Committee Annual Report 2013-2014

Members: Anne Dalton (Clerk), Ruth Bradley, David Connelly, Julie Lockhart, Suzanne O'Hara, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Bess Simkin and Paul Simkin

The Outreach committee has met four times since the last annual meeting.

Actions taken include:

- Numerous Revisions to the website (<http://www.quaker.org/poplar/>). We completed the section "What we do" with contact information and brief descriptions for each activity.
- Regular updates of a Facebook page.
- We explored ways of attracting and retaining young people and their families. We planned and held multigenerational brunches after the fifth Sunday multigenerational services on September 29, 2013 and March 30, 2014. We did a dish to pass and a very simplified menu.
- The committee held a third informal session on May 5, 2013 for people interested in membership. The session was again well attended and well received. There have been requests to repeat a similar session. Childcare was offered but not needed. We shall continue to offer childcare when the session is repeated.
- Quaker posters were chosen and mounted in the entrance way and large room downstairs.
- Concern had been expressed about having multiple mailing addresses for Poplar Ridge Meeting mail. None the less the system with two addresses seems to be working. We shall keep the street address in Poplar Ridge and the PO box in Aurora.
- We felt that the Motto calendars represent wonderful outreach and offered our support and assistance to Jane in any way she would find most useful.
- We worked with Ministry and Council on placing an article in PRISM about a variety of Quaker thoughts. Larry Buffam and Anne have been working together on a series titled "Have you ever wondered?"
- We emphasized the importance of greeting one another after service and will make an effort to do so.

Ongoing actions include

- Welcome cards for attenders and/or newcomers are being reviewed. We discussed a variety of welcome card for interested visitors to complete. The best location to keep them would be in the pew racks. A heavier grade paper "Welcome" brochures could be with them.
- "Have you ever wondered?" in the PRISM
- Assisting with Motto calendars
- Hold another membership informal session

- Continue to host multigenerational brunches when possible after fifth Sunday multigenerational services.
- Continue making regular updates of a Facebook page and website as needed.

Submitted by Anne Dalton, Clerk April 2014